Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 01376 081350Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-01 PC-01 SCS-03 /016 W ------013013 081400Z /47

R 081240Z SEP 77 FM AMEMBASSY MASERU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7523

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 1376

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: CASC, LT

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST S.A. VISA PROBLEM

REF: STATE 202840,

- 1. KEVIN PAUL COX IS NOT A PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER; HE IS A MENNONITE VOLUNTEER TO LESOTHO. PEACE CORPS HAS HAD NO PROBLEMS OBTAINING SOUTH AFRICAN VISAS, OTHER THAN DELAYS.
- 2. THE MENNONITE VOLUNTEERS HAVE HAD, AND WILL PROBABLY CONTINUE TO HAVE, SERIOUS PROBLEMS OBTAINING S.A. VISAS FROM PRETORIA. ABOUT SIX VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING COX, HAVE BEEN FLATLY REFUSED. WHEN THESE PEOPLE HAVE CONTACTED CONOFF FOR HELP, HELP HAS BEEN FORTHCOMING, BUT THE ORIGINAL REFUSALS HAVE NEVER BEEN REVERSED. COX NEVER CONTACTED CONOFF CONCERNING HIS PROBLEM.
- 3. EMBASSY PRETORIA HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE THE REASON FOR THE REFUSALS. HOWEVER, THE MENNONITE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DIRECTOR IN MASERU FEELS IT IS BECAUSE THE MENNONITE VOLUNTEERS TEND TO WORK DIRECTLY WITH SOUTH AFRICAN REFUGEES. THIS SEEMS A REASONABLE EXPLANATION. IT HAS ALSO BEEN SUGGESTED HERE THAT MENNONITE ESPOUSAL OF PACIFISM IS OBJECTIONABLE TO SAG. STOKES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST S.A. VISA PROBLEM TAGS: CASC, CVIS, LT, (COX, KEVIN PAUL)

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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